

of the event was to encourage black girls to take pride in their character and scholarship. Proceeds from the debutante ball have provided scholarships to young ladies for over 40 years.

Also proceeds have been used to fund many civic projects in the Vicksburg, Mississippi community such as: donations to the local battered women's shelters, tutorial programs, art projects, NAACP, Meals-on-Wheels, Techno-Color Rewind (Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital), Patricia A. Segrest Memorial Sickle Cell Walk, Vicksburg Benevolent Homecoming Club Scholarship, donations of blankets to nursing homes and the We Care Community Service Organization Scholarship.

The club also provides the Clara Rhodman Prosser Scholarship, in honor of their beloved club member, to local high school graduates. Many of the debutantes have gone on to pursue various professional and educational paths as teachers, lawyers, doctors, entrepreneurs, military, etc.

The Les Soeurs Charmantes Social and Civic Club still stands strong as one of the few organizations still in existence today promoting achievement and academic excellence to young ladies ready to make their mark upon the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Les Soeurs Charmantes Social and Civic Club for its dedication to serving others and giving back to the community.

THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL GME SUPPORT REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.,

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of S. 1557, the Children's Hospital GME Support Reauthorization Act of 2013.

As every parent knows, it's very important to have a trusted doctor to turn to when their child gets sick. Since its inception in 1999, the Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education Program—known as CHGME—has helped to make sure that a doctor is there and prepared to diagnose any symptoms our children face.

In fact, the program has been a true success. In the 1990s declines in pediatric training programs threatened the stability of the pediatric workforce. CHGME helped to reverse these dangerous declines. Even then, Congress, on a bipartisan manner recognized that if we didn't create and fund programs that would train doctors to treat these children, there won't be anyone left to take care of them.

That is why, the House overwhelmingly supported reauthorization of the program in the 112th and 113th Congresses, passing standalone legislation in September 2011, including the reauthorization in broader legislation in December 2012, and approving standalone legislation one year ago.

The legislation before us today—which has already cleared the Senate by unanimous con-

sent—reauthorizes the program through fiscal year 2018 and makes two important changes to the program.

First, S. 1557 allows the Secretary of Health and Human Services to undertake a limited program expansion to include children's psychiatric hospitals and other freestanding children's hospitals that have been ineligible to participate in the program for technical reasons.

Second, it gives the Secretary the authority to redistribute funding set-aside for the newly-eligible hospitals that is unused, based upon quality measures that are consistent with residency program accreditation criteria and that are developed in consultation with stakeholders.

With this federal CHGME support, children's hospitals can play a key role in ensuring the continued growth of our nation's pediatric workforce. In 2012, the program supported the training of 6,015 resident physicians nationally. The program will also help to enhance hospitals' research capabilities and improve hospitals' ability to provide care to vulnerable and underserved children.

I want to thank Congressman JOE PITTS, the Chairman of our Health Subcommittee, for working with me on the House bill. Together with his help and leadership, we advanced House CHGME legislation upon convening the 113th Congress. A special thanks to Chairman Upton and Ranking Member WAXMAN for their support in addressing this critical program.

I also want to commend Senators CASEY and ISAKSON for their leadership on this legislation in the Senate and hard work to address concerns raised about children's psychiatric hospitals and other children's hospitals being excluded from the program in a fair and balanced way.

Mr. Speaker, this program has proven results and it is past time that we finally reauthorize CHGME so that we can provide certainty to hospitals, doctors and their patients.

Children in our communities are counting on this program to train a future generation of pediatricians. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on S. 1557 and to send this measure to the President.

TRIBUTE TO BILLY D. WILLIAMS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a loyal South Carolinian who has dedicated his life to public service.

Billy D. Williams is turning 75 on April 18 and will be celebrating with his wife, Anita Frazier, friends and family on April 5 at Savannah Grove Church.

Mr. Williams was born in Florence, South Carolina where he was the youngest of seven children. He graduated from Wilson High School and attended the Fashion Institute and Design. He is also a graduate of the Strom Thurmond Institute of Government.

As an African American growing up in the deep South just as integration was beginning to take hold, Billy made a commendable choice to take a life of public service in order to better the lives of his neighbors and the communities he has known all of his life.

In 1988, Billy was elected to the Florence City Council, where he served for 23 years. During that tenure, he also served as Mayor Pro Tem. During his time as an elected official, he served in several local, state and national capacities. He was one of the founders of the South Carolina Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials and served as its President for several years. He was a board member of the National League of Cities and the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (NBC-LEO), and as a member of the Advisory Board of the National League of Cities.

During his tenure on the Florence City Council, Billy fought for and spearheaded reforms for better housing, improvements in education and access to affordable, quality health care for the citizens of Florence. His accomplishments included the construction of the Cambridge Apartments and Coit Village Apartments, an affordable housing subdivision in Williams Heights, 15 affordable houses in North Florence and several "Habitat for Humanity" houses in West Florence.

Billy also served as President of the Wilson High School PTA and was a member of the Wilson High School Alumni Association. He also organized the Latch Key Kids Program of America which is a partnership between Florence School District One and the National League of Cities.

Billy is a member of various social and civic organizations in South Carolina including the NAACP, Hiram Lodge #13 Prince Hall Masons, Pee Dee Consistory and Crescent Temple. He also served as a board member of the Pee Dee Transitional Shelter. He is currently the Vice President of the Pee Dee Healthy Start Board.

Most recently, Billy received the Palmetto Award and the National Service to Youth Award from the Boys and Girls Club of America for his 15 years of devoted service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Billy D. Williams on his 75th birthday and decades of dedicated and productive service to human kind. His commitment to his community is exemplary, and his contributions are incalculable. I wish him all the best and many more years of service.

APPLIED RESEARCH ASSOCIATES, INC.

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Applied Research Associates, Inc. for being honored with the Business Recognition Award given by the Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation.

The Business Recognition Award is given to a Jefferson County company which shows growth in employment, sales and capital investment in the last year.

Applied Research Associates, Inc. is an international research engineering firm that provides technical solutions to help solve problems of national importance. The company's philosophy incorporates a code of ethics and standard of conduct in everything they do.